

Appn No. 09/505,951
Amdt. Dated January 23, 2006
Response to Office Action of January 18, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action has been carefully considered. It is respectfully submitted that the issues raised are traversed, being hereinafter addressed with reference to the relevant headings appearing in the Detailed Action section of the Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

The Examiner has maintained his rejection of claims 1 to 4, 6 to 15, and 17 to 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sony Corporation (Kusakabe), European Patent EP 0817420, in view of Spies *et al.* US Patent 5689565.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present claim 1 is patentable over Sony in view of Spies.

In particular, the Applicant fails to see *any* description, teaching or suggestion in the combination of Sony and Spies of the elements of claim 1, such as:

1. comparing the signature calculated in the untrusted authentication chip with the decrypted signature;
2. in the event that the two signatures match, encrypting the decrypted random number by the symmetric encryption function using *a second key and returning it to the trusted authentication chip*;
3. encrypting the random number by the symmetric encryption function using the second key, in the trusted authentication chip;
4. comparing the two random numbers encrypted using the second key, in the trusted authentication chip;
5. in the event that the two random numbers encrypted match, considering the untrusted chip to be valid.

The Applicant respectfully reminds the Examiner, that in accordance with MPEP 2143, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest *all* the claim limitations.

The present claim 1 describes two comparison steps of comparing signatures calculated in an untrusted chip, and comparing two encrypted random numbers in the trusted chip, where the encrypted random numbers have been *returned* to the trusted chip. Applicant respectfully asserts the Examiner has failed to particularly point out these claim limitations within the prior art references. The Applicant has previously submitted that differences in validation processes are often crucial for security reasons. In particular, these steps can provide enhanced security measures.

Therefore, Applicant submits the present claim 1 is patentable over Sony in view of Spies.

The Applicant also notes that the Examiner has stated on page 3 of the final Office Action that one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually. However, the Examiner has also stated on page 5 of the specification that the Applicant's proposed combination is "mere speculation and would result only from naively combining all of the claimed limitations". Accordingly, the Applicant does not understand how the rejections

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under 103(a) can be overcome if neither approach is allowed. The Applicant's comments in the previous response are respectfully reasserted. A person skilled in the art would not attain the limitations of claim 1 by combining Sony and Spies.

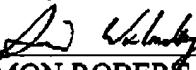
The Applicant respectfully requests that this matter be fully reviewed by the supervisory Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections. The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance of all the claims presently under examination.

Very respectfully,

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